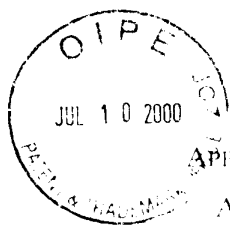


Express Mail No.: EK674915-1 US  
Date of Deposit: July 10, 2000

Attorney Docket No. 17811-014  
(M-14 CIP)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Hunziker, *et al.*

ASSIGNEE: Epitech S.A.

SERIAL NUMBER: 09/546,269

EXAMINER: Not Yet Assigned

FILING DATE: April 10, 2000

ART UNIT: 1636

FOR: IMPROVED KERATINOCYTE CULTURE AND USES THEREOF

July 10, 2000  
Boston, Massachusetts

**Box IDS**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

Transmitted herewith for filing in the present application are the following documents:

- [X] Information Disclosure Statement (3 pages);
- [X] Modified Form 1449/PTO (2 page) (x 2);
- [X] Copies of Cited references: C12-C36; and
- [X] Return Postcard.

If the enclosed papers are considered incomplete, the Mail Room and/or the Application Branch is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at 617/542-6000, Boston, Massachusetts.

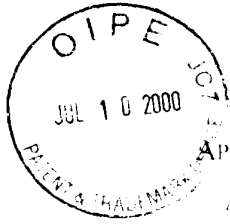
No fee is believed to be due. However, if any fees are to be assessed, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the balance due to the undersigned's account, Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Reference 17811-014 (M-14 CIP). A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

For R. Elrifi, Reg. No. 39,529  
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants hereby make of record the documents listed below and on the attached modified Form PTO-1449 (submitted in duplicate) in the above-identified application, copies of which are submitted herewith. The order of presentation of the references should not be construed as an indication of the importance of the references.

**U.S. Patent Documents:**

- \*5,580,781 Dec. 3, 1996 Naughton *et al.*

**Other Prior Art – Non Patent Literature Documents:**

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This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed:  
within three months of the filing date of the National Application;

APPLICANTS:  
U.S.S.N.:

Hunziker, et al  
09/546, 269

- ☐ within three months of the filing date of the entry of the National Stage, as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491, in an International Application; or
- ☐ before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the above-identified case.

Accordingly, no fee or certification is required. 37 C.F.R. §1.97

A copy of each of the above-identified information is enclosed unless otherwise indicated on the attached Form PTO-1449 (modified). It is respectfully requested that the Examiner consider completely the cited information, along with any other information, in reaching a determination concerning the patentability of the present claims, and signs the enclosed form PTO-1449 to evidence that the cited information has been fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that: (1) a search has been performed, of the extent of any search performed, or that more relevant information does not exist; (2) the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b); and (3) the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, in fact, prior art as defined by 35 U.S.C. §102.

Notwithstanding any statements by the Applicant, the Examiner is urged to form his/her own conclusion regarding the relevance of the cited information. An early and favorable action is hereby requested. Please charge any additional fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Reference No. 17811-014(M-14 CIP).

Respectfully submitted,



Ivor R. Elrifi, Reg. No. 39,529  
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Dated: July 10, 2000

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